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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 3, 2002**

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# **LELAND DICKENS, THE ENFORCER FOR AN ECSTASY DRUG RING ENTERS A PLEA OF GUILTY**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on September 3, 2002 Leland Dickens, 6-21-78 of Kansas City, Missouri, pled guilty to Conspiracy to Possess with the Intent to Distribute (MDMA) ecstasy, in federal district court in Phoenix, Arizona.

Leland Dickens, had been charged with violating Title 21 of the United States Code, Section 846. On April 11, 2001 Leland Dickens and co-defendants traveled from Kansas City to Phoenix on a commercial airline with approximately \$27,000.00. They planned to meet a Phoenix man and purchase 4,000 dosage units of Ecstasy. The local suppliers took the \$27,000.00 and failed to give Dickens and co-defendants the promised and agreed upon 4,000 Ecstasy pills. On April 13, 2001 Leland Dickens and co-defendants found the individual whom they believed stole their \$27,000.00. Dickens and others pushed into the apartment and Dickens proceeded to beat the occupant, that had been tied up by a co-defendant, with a crowbar while demanding his groups \$27,000.00. A co-defendant found \$5,000.00 which was used to purchase Ecstasy for future sale in Kansas City, Missouri.

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During the plea Dickens admitted his part in the conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute (MDMA). Dickens also admitted that he had hit the victim in the head with a crowbar at least eight times while also punching the victim repeatedly.

A conviction for a violation of 846 carries a maximum penalty of 20 years, a \$ 1 million dollar fine or both.

Sentencing is set before Judge Frederick J. Martone on December 2, 2002.

The investigation in this case was conducted by Tempe P.D. and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The prosecution is being handled by Kevin M. Rapp and Steven P. Logan, Assistant United States Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-01-993-PHX-FJM  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2002-148

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